

**§ 22.325 Historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and other minority institutions (MIs).**

Increasing the ability of HBCUs and MIs to participate in federally funded, university programs is an objective of Executive Order 12876 (3 CFR, 1993 Comp., p. 671) and 10 U.S.C. 2323. Grants officers shall include appropriate provisions in Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs) or other announcements for programs in which awards to institutions of higher education are anticipated, in order to promote participation of HBCUs and MIs in such programs. Also, whenever practicable, grants officers shall reserve appropriate programmatic areas for exclusive competition among HBCUs and MIs when preparing announcements for such programs.

**Subpart D—Recipient Qualification Matters—General Policies and Procedures**

**§ 22.400 Purpose.**

The purpose of this subpart is to specify policies and procedures for grants officers' determination of recipient qualifications prior to award.

**§ 22.405 Policy.**

(a) *General.* Grants officers normally shall award grants or cooperative agreements only to qualified recipients that meet the standards in § 22.415. This practice conforms with the Governmentwide policy, stated at 32 CFR 25.115(a), to do business only with responsible persons.

(b) *Exception.* In exceptional circumstances, grants officers may make awards to recipients that do not fully meet the standards in § 22.415 and include special award conditions that are appropriate to the particular situation, in accordance with 32 CFR 32.14, 33.12, or 34.4.

**§ 22.410 Grants officers' responsibilities.**

The grants officer is responsible for determining a recipient's qualification prior to award. The grants officer's signature on the award document shall signify his or her determination that either:

(a) The potential recipient meets the standards in § 22.415 and is qualified to receive the grant or cooperative agreement; or

(b) An award is justified to a recipient that does not fully meet the standards, pursuant to § 22.405(b). In such cases, grants officers shall document in the award file the rationale for making an award to a recipient that does not fully meet the standards.

**§ 22.415 Standards.**

To be qualified, a potential recipient must:

(a) Have the management capability and adequate financial and technical resources, given those that would be made available through the grant or cooperative agreement, to execute the program of activities envisioned under the grant or cooperative agreement.

(b) Have a satisfactory record of executing such programs or activities (if a prior recipient of an award).

(c) Have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics.

(d) Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive a grant or cooperative agreement under applicable laws and regulations (see § 22.420(c)).

**§ 22.420 Pre-award procedures.**

(a) The appropriate method to be used and amount of effort to be expended in deciding the qualification of a potential recipient will vary. In deciding on the method and level of effort, the grants officer should consider factors such as:

(1) DoD's past experience with the recipient;

(2) Whether the recipient has previously received cost-type contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements from the Federal Government; and

(3) The amount of the prospective award and complexity of the project to be carried out under the award.

(b) There is no DoD-wide requirement to obtain a pre-award credit report, audit, or any other specific piece of information. On a case-by-case basis, the grants officer will decide whether there is a need to obtain any such information to assist in deciding whether the recipient meets the standards in § 22.415 (a), (b), and (c).

(1) Should the grants officer in a particular case decide that a pre-award credit report, audit, or survey is needed, he or she should consult first with the appropriate grants administration office (identified in § 22.710), and decide whether pre-existing surveys or audits of the recipient, such as those of the recipient's internal control systems under OMB Circular A-133<sup>2</sup> will satisfy the need (see § 22.715(a)(1)).

(2) If, after consulting with the grants administration office, the grants officer decides to obtain a credit report, audit, or other information, and the report or other information discloses that a potential recipient is delinquent on a debt to an agency of the United States Government, then:

(i) The grants officer shall take such information into account when determining whether the potential recipient is qualified with respect to the grant or cooperative agreement; and

(ii) If the grants officer decides to make the award to the recipient, unless there are compelling reasons to do otherwise, the grants officer shall delay the award of the grant or cooperative agreement until payment is made or satisfactory arrangements are made to repay the debt.

(c) In deciding whether a recipient is otherwise qualified and eligible in accordance with the standard in § 22.415(d), the grants officer shall ensure that the potential recipient:

(1) Is not identified on the Governmentwide "List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-procurement Programs" as being debarred, suspended, or otherwise ineligible to receive the award. The grants officer shall check the list of such parties for:

(i) Potential recipients of prime awards, as described at 32 CFR 25.505(d);

(ii) A recipient's principals (e.g., officers, directors, or other key employees, as defined at 32 CFR 25.105); and

(iii) Potential recipients of sub-awards, where DoD Component approval of such principals or lower-tier

recipients is required under the terms of the award (see 32 CFR 25.505(e)).

(2) Has provided all certifications and assurances required by Federal statute, Executive order, or codified regulation, unless they are to be addressed in award terms and conditions at the time of award (see § 22.510).

(3) Meets any eligibility criteria that may be specified in the statute authorizing the specific program under which the award is being made (see § 22.210(a)(2)).

(d) Grants officers shall obtain each recipient's Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN, which may be the Social Security Number for an individual and Employer Identification Number for a business or non-profit entity) and notify the recipient that the TIN is being obtained for purposes of collecting and reporting on any delinquent amounts that may arise out of the recipient's relationship with the Government. Obtaining the TIN and so notifying the recipient is a statutory requirement of 31 U.S.C. 7701, as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (section 31001(i)(1), Pub. L. 104-134).

## Subpart E—National Policy Matters

### § 22.505 Purpose.

The purpose of this subpart is to supplement other regulations that implement national policy requirements, to the extent that it is necessary to provide additional guidance to DoD grants officers. The other regulations that implement national policy requirements include:

(a) The other parts of the DoDGARs (32 CFR parts 32, 33, and 34) that implement the Governmentwide guidance in OMB Circulars A-102<sup>3</sup> and A-110<sup>4</sup> on administrative requirements for grants and cooperative agreements. Those parts address some national policy matters that appear in the OMB Circulars.

(b) DoD regulations other than the DoDGARs.

(c) Other Federal agencies' regulations.

<sup>2</sup>Contact the Office of Management and Budget, EOP Publications, 725 17th St. NW, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

<sup>3</sup>See footnote 2 to § 22.420(b)(1).

<sup>4</sup>See footnote 2 to § 22.420(b)(1).